

It has come to my understanding that there is a possibility for a new type of FM- broadcasting service (Low Power FM) to be brought into the radio market, which, in so doing, could/would eliminate some/all of the current stations that are broadcasting. As a citizen, as a consumer, I don't believe this is an appropriate approach to your band-availability problems.

I am specifically, but not solely, writing about my concern for the future of a radio station that my family and I have listened to for 17 years (beginning back to before they were a radio NETWORK) -- Airl Radio Network. This station is rarely pre-empted on our radio dial (which I think is quite a commentary for a contemporary Christian music choice when there are teenagers in the mix)!!! It has been a common bond for all 5 of our children (3 of whom are grown and STILL listen to it of their OWN ACCORD!), and my husband and I as their parents.

It has also given them something to be able to share with the friends of theirs who DON'T listen to it regularly (though MOST DO), as a "positive alternative" in current music trends.

Our family, as well as most of those that we know, believe that this type of station is really a SERVICE that's provided to us (which is why we are willing to support them financially!). There are already WAY too many "other" music stations who portray "garbage" by way of the excuses "creative license" or "right to free speech", to ignore or eliminate the few that have been able to SUCCESSFULLY reach out and give this alternative.

As is the case in EVERY industry, QUALITY is essential. In broadcasting, this is even more so. Replacing the current broadcast standards with LPFM, would be equivalent to changing from cable television to using "rabbit ears" on top of your TV set, or going from "DSL Broadband" to dial-up on your computer. It CAN be done, but WHY?

In closing, I truly hope that you will consider this "opportunity" carefully. I am sincerely asking that you do not eliminate those stations (again, especially, but not exclusively Airl Radio Network) who are already on-air and providing a vital service to many around the world, by replacing them with so much more of the same "junk" that is already on the airwaves--please allow us to retain our choice. Also, please do not replace the quality that is currently available with LPFM.